



MONTANA HIGH COUNTRY

Outfitter – Lodge – Guest Ranch

*7501 Pioneer Mountain Scenic Byway – PO Box 460473
Polaris, MT 59746 - Phone (406) – 834 - 3469*

ORVIS

**ENDORSED
FLY FISHING
LODGE**

SENATE FISH AND GAME

EXHIBIT NO. 4

DATE 3/22/11

BILL NO. SB 400

To: Senate Fish & Game Committee
From: Russ Kipp
Concerning: SB400

Dear Chairman and members of the Senate Fish and Game Committee.

I am asking for your support with SB400.

SB400 creates 2000 B10 (non-resident elk – deer combination) licenses. They can only be used in a congressionally designated wilderness and thus will have very little effect on Montana resident hunters.

This bill will provide much needed revenue for the Fish, Wildlife and Parks as well as help retain jobs in rural Montana. This bill is not an end run around I-161, SB400 has no outfitter preference. It does however provide equal opportunity for all non-residents hunters through a drawing and revenue for both the FWP and access. It also provides a positive impact on the resident sportsman (hunting and fishing) by helping to maintain the low license fees we all enjoy as Montana residents.

Over the past 20 years Montana resident elk – deer hunting license sales have fluctuated from a low of 247,553 to a high of 287,692; that's nearly 30,000 licenses. 2000 additional non-resident wilderness elk - deer licenses will have little effect on hunting pressure in Montana, again as these licenses are only good in congressionally designated wilderness areas.

Please support SB400.

Thank you,

Russ Kipp
P.O. Box 460473
Polaris, MT 59746

Ph. 406.834.3469